

# What LYAC members are saying about the Council



Ehrik Aldana  
LYAC Chair

Sammamish, WA

“It is our duty as the connecting body between our youth and our government to truly send a message to ALL the youth of Washington—a message that their input is important and that they will have a voice in the legislative process.”



Stephanie Vis  
LYAC Outreach Chair

Lynden, WA

“My most worthwhile experience came as a result of Action Day 2009. The Council met with students who came from tough situations: some were homeless, some had dropped out multiple times, and some worked full time. The experience opened my eyes not only to the gravity of these situations, but also to the feeling of hopelessness. It felt great to help students realize that not all hope was lost, that we were working on a solution.”



Atul Vaidyanathan  
LYAC Member

Bellevue, WA

“I wanted to really make a difference in people’s lives. I thought that the Council ... has the power to really affect people and their role in government.”



Zack Zappone  
LYAC member

Spokane, WA

“LYAC has given me the chance to make connections that I can use back home to improve my own community.”



Jennifer Llamas  
LYAC Member

Olympia, WA

Youth are “the unrepresented minority. We can’t vote yet, but most legislation directly affects us.”



Lissa Karapostoles  
LYAC Communications  
Chair

Sequim, WA

“The Civic Engagement Forum was exceptionally great in bringing together youth of different backgrounds and experiences. This is what LYAC is all about! With the 22 youth voices on the Council combined with the overarching voice of all Washington youth, there is so much more than can be accomplished.”